KANSAS BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Director

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Kansas Law Enforcement & Courts Ranked #1

The State of Kansas is ranked first in the United States in Law Enforcement and Court technology in a recent survey conducted by the Center for Digital Government and The Progress & Freedom Foundation. The annual survey, conducted among all 50 states, determines which states are using technology most effectively in the area of criminal justice. The 2002 survey results ranked Kansas' Criminal Justice Information System (KCJIS) tied for first place with Colorado and Wisconsin.

KCJIS is a complex and sophisticated computer system that has been under development since 1996 and in operation since 1998. According to KBI Director Larry Welch, Kansas is recognized nationally for its use of technology in criminal justice.

"Kansas has come a long way since the inception of KCJIS in the mid 1990's.   It has taken a lot of very good people working very hard to produce these fine results. They are to be congratulated," said Welch, who is one of the seven members of the Kansas Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

The Kansas Courts are currently implementing a new computer system called FullCourt in district courts in all 105 counties of the state. KCJIS Director Gordon Lansford said the new system will greatly enhance the electronic ability of the courts.

"When the new system is operational in all 105 counties, each judge will be able to know if an offender is wanted and/or out on bond from another county," Lansford said. "This capability will enhance the safety of law enforcement officers as well as Kansas citizens."

 Lansford said law enforcement and the courts now shoulder ever-expanding responsibilities with the recent focus on homeland security. Coordination and computer networks are the lifeblood of a broader yet more focused justice enterprise. KCJIS is a statewide network that currently supports about 7000 authorized users ranging from the smallest law enforcement agency and court, to the largest. It is eventually expected to serve approximately 15,000 criminal justice users in law enforcement, the courts, corrections, prosecution, and supervision.

Criminal Justice information is currently available at the following websites:
Juvenile Justice Authority - http://jja.state.ks.us
Kansas Department of Corrections - http://docnet.dc.state.ks.us
Kansas Bureau of Investigation - http://www.accesskansas.org/kbi
Kansas Judicial Branch - http://www.kscourts.org
Office of the Attorney General - http://www.ink.org/public/ksag